

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SWF-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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INR-11 IO-14 NEA-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 SP-03

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DRAFTED BY EB/OFJ-JAPLACKE/LS

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199978

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN COMMENT ON GRAIN RESERVES PROPOSAL

FOR: AMBASSADOR EDWIN M. MARTIN

1. MISSION REQUESTED DELIVER THIS MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN AT OPENING OF BUSINESS, PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER 12 OECD CONSULTATIONS ON WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE (WFC) PREPARATIONS.

2. IN CALL SEPTEMBER 11 ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ, CANADIAN ECONOMIC MINISTER GHERSON SAID GOC WELCOMED DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR WFC RESOLUTION ON GRAIN RESERVES. BUT GOC CONCERNED THAT DISCUSSION OF DETAILS WITH IMPORTERS BEFORE FURTHER BILATERAL CLARIFICATION MIGHT GIVE MAJOR EXPORTERS APPEARANCE OF DISARRAY. FROM QUESTIONS RAISED
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BY GHERSON, GOC SEEMED CONCERNED THAT AGREEMENT ON RESERVES

MIGHT UNDERCUT MTN NEGOTIATIONS ON GRAINS.

3. KATZ REPLIED THAT WE CONSIDERED PROGRESS ON RESERVES SCHEME IMPORTANT ASPECT OF MEETING WORLD FOOD PROBLEM. WE ARE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GRAIN RESERVES SYSTEM AND MTN, BUT DID NOT BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS TOWARD SYSTEM HAD TO AWAIT RESOLUTION OF TRADE ISSUES. OUR PURPOSE IN DEVELOPING DRAFT WAS TO TRY TO MOVE PROJECT FORWARD AT WFC SO THAT NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SUBSTANCE OF RESERVE SYSTEM MIGHT BEGIN. OECD CONSULTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADA AND OTHERS WERE INTENDED TO EVOKE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, ESPECIALLY ABOUT RESERVES, AND WE WOULD WELCOME FURTHER BILATERAL TALKS.

4. GHERSON INFORMED THAT YOU WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON UNTIL AFTER THIRD PREPCOM. HE INDICATED GOC PROBABLY WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS TRADE IMPLICATIONS OF RESERVE SCHEME FURTHER. KISSINGER

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